

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 526
By Davis

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Alex Fancher, Jr. of
Dandridge.

WHEREAS, it was with great sadness and a profound sense of loss that the members of this General Assembly and the citizens of our state learned of the death of Alex Fancher, Jr.; a highly respected and beloved resident of Dandridge; and

WHEREAS, a native of Cocke County, Mr. Fancher was an avid sportsman, and owner of the popular Willow Creek Campground, located on Douglas Lake; and

WHEREAS, he was a distinguished graduate of Cocke County High School and Carson-Newman College, where he worked hard and made the college football team; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fancher was a senior chemist at Holston Defense-Eastman in Kingsport and was highly regarded by his peers; and

WHEREAS, an avid bass fisherman, he was a charter member of the Volunteer Bassmasters; and

WHEREAS, Robert Overholt, a lifelong friend, paid tribute to him by stating: "He was an avid bass fisherman. He was as serious about it as anyone around. He was out fishing an average of four days a week when the weather was bad, every day when it was good. He probably had more trophy-sized largemouths and smallmouth bass than any other fisherman in East Tennessee. He and Jabo Francis still fished the bass tournament circuit every year and never missed a tournament. Alex was awfully tough to beat."; and

WHEREAS, a close friend, former Cocke County Clerk, Don Boley, said Mr. Fancher “was renowned throughout our area and the entire Southeast as a great fisherman and a great person. Alex represented our club (Bassmasters) numerous times in the Tennessee Bass Tournament and won it once on Fort Loudon Lake. He also represented the state twice in regional competition.”; and

WHEREAS, Representative Ronnie Davis, a very good friend, knew him as a tremendous competitor and a true sportsman and, in Alex’s own words, appropriately said, “He was the right kind”; and

WHEREAS, he was a distinguished citizen of the state of Tennessee who was very dedicated to his profession, community and family; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fancher was an active and devout member of the First United Methodist Church of Newport; and

WHEREAS, the legacy he leaves behind will be remembered and treasured by friends and associates for many years to come; and

WHEREAS, a loving husband, father and grandfather, he is survived by his loving wife, Gail Carver Fancher; daughters and sons-in-law, Alecia and Darren Payne, Allison and Allen Hutson and granddaughter, Aleza Allison Payne; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this legislative body pause in its deliberations to remember the exemplary life of this fine Tennessean; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Alex Fancher, Jr., remembering with admiration his exemplary character and many selfless contributions to Cocke County and his community, and we express our deepest sympathy and condolences to the family and friends.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation, with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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